

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MBABAN 02298 060950Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11

TRSE-00 SSC-01 AID-05 /070 W

-----029539 061859Z /40

R 060820Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY MBABANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5152

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MBABANE 2298

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, WZ

SUBJECT: THREE MINISTERS DROPPED FROM CBAINET

1. GOS ANNOUNCED AFTERNOON JULY 5 THE KING'S DECISION OF PREVIOUS DAY TO "REMOVE" FOLLOWING THREE MINISTERS IMMEDIATELY: DR. ALLEN NXUMALO, MINISTER OF WORKS, POWER, AND COMMUNICATIONS; PRINCE MASITSELA, MINISTER OF LOCAL ADMINISTRATION; AND S. M. MATSEBU LA, MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS. THE TWO-SENTENCE ANNOUNCEMENT DID NOT GIVE BACKGROUND FOR DECISION OR PROVIDE INFO ON INTERIM ADMINISTRATION OF AFFECTED MINISTERIES

2. USUALLY WELL-INFORMED SOURCES ARE UNABLE TO EXPLAIN KING'S ACTION. LIKELY THAT NXUMALO'S REMOVAL RESULTS FROM HIS HAVING BEEN ON THE "TAKE" IN CONNECTION WITH TOO MANY INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS. MASITSELA COULD HAVE BEEN

DROPPED BECAUSE OF HIS IMPRUDENT COMMITMENT OF GOS FUNDS FOR POORLY PLANNED AND WIDELY ADVERTISED GIGANTIC "POP" FESTIVAL THAT WAS CALLED OFF AT LAST MINUTE, REPORTEDLY AT KING'S
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PAGE 02 MBABAN 02298 060950Z

BEHEST. NO IDEAS ON ELIMINATION OF MATSEBULA, WHO WAS UNCONTROVERSIAL, AT LEAST AS FAR AS WESTERN OBSERVERS AWARE, AND WHO SEEMED TO PLAY ADEQUATELY THE MINOR ROLE ASSIGNED TO FONOFF HEAD IN A COUNTRY THAT INTENTIONALLY KEEPS LOW INTERNATIONAL PROFILE. MOST INEXPLICABLE OF ALL, GIVEN SWAZI AVERSION TO EMBARRASSING THOSE IN AUTHORITY, IS WHY KING ACTED NOW INSTEAD OF ALLOWING THESE MINISTERS TO FADE RESPECT-

ABLY INTO OBLIVION AS PART OF POST-ELECTION CABINET RESHUFFLE
REASONABLY CERTAIN TO TAKE PLACE WITHIN 60 TO 90 DAYS.

3. KING'S ACTION HAS NO APPARENT IMPLICATIONS FOR USG POLICY
OR PROGRAMS.

WACHOB

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CABINET, PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780277-1060
Format: TEL
From: MBABANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780791/aaaacyon.tel
Line Count: 68
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7a6f827a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 apr 2005
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: THREE MINISTERS DROPPED FROM CBAINET
TAGS: PGOV, WZ, (NXUMALO, ALLEN), (MASITSELA, PRINCE), (MATSEBU, S M)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7a6f827a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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